

The Mountain West's first newspaper

DESERET NEWS

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In our opinion

Need for child day care is growing in Utah, nation

Ideally, a parent should be home to take care of children — preschool children in particular — but in the reality of today's world, that is often not the case; in many situations it is not even possible. The need for some kind of modestly-priced day care is compelling.

In Utah, a decidedly family-oriented state, three out of every five women work outside the home. In a majority of cases, it is a single-parent home or a family where the husband earns less than \$15,000 a year.

There are only an estimated 18,000 day care slots in Utah against a critical need of 100,000. Too often, the children are cared for on a hit-or-miss basis. In many instances, the lack of day care keeps a single-parent mother on welfare, unable to take training or accept a job.

For many families, this opens the door to neglect, emotional strain, uncertainty, and a lifestyle below the poverty level. It can hardly be a situation that is good for children.

The problem in Utah is a microcosm of the circumstances nationwide, where day care for millions of children is regarded as critical.

In the face of this need, Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, is sponsoring a bill to encourage day care by private, public, church, business and local government — without the heavy hand of federal bureaucracy.

It may seem strange for Hatch, with his deeply conservative credentials, to be sponsoring social legislation. But the problem exists and must be confronted. The senator says that his conferences with Utah women in recent years have produced the same urgent cry for day care.

It is not a question of encouraging women to work outside the home; it is a matter of coping with the fact that many of them already are, and doing what's necessary for the children involved.

Other day care proposals before Congress call for \$2.5 billion the first year, would provide direct services with federal money, would increase the bureaucracy, and would put in place another of those entitlement programs that seemingly grow rapidly out of financial control. This would only drive up the cost of day care, thus making things even worse.

By contrast, Hatch's measure would authorize \$375 million as seed money to encourage day care from the bottom up instead of the top down, an approach designed to produce far more day care slots, at less expense to the parents who use it, and keep control at the local level.

The bill would: (1) Give block grants to states for seed money to encourage public and private entities to improve child care services; (2) help states establish revolving loan funds for family-based day care providers to borrow modest amounts for home improvements needed for day care licensing; (3) start state liability insurance pools for day care providers; (4) provide tax credits for employers who establish on-site day care facilities; and (5) give double personal tax exemptions for parents who stay home with a newborn child for at least six months.

A federal day care law of some kind seems likely eventually. The Hatch bill seems by far the most prudent approach.

Heber City Report

Day Care Ordinance

22 May 1988
A new ordinance governing day care received unanimous preliminary approval by the Heber City Council, Thursday evening. The complete text will be published in *The Wasatch Wave* and there will be a public hearing before a final ordinance is adopted.

Paul Royal answered questions about the proposed ordinance, prepared by the Planning Commission, saying the ordinance isn't perfect but that it is a good start. He said it can be amended as the ordinance is administered and flaws show up.

He said the ordinance, which the Commission has been working on for about two years, incorporated recommendations from the City Attorney, Jim Smedley, as well as input from others. He also said any additional suggestions brought up at the public hearing will also be considered before the final ordinance is passed.

Answering a question from Councilman Scott Wright, Royal explained that child abuse reporting is handled on the state level, whereas the

date is okay. However, she reported that legislative expenses are high and that there need to be some adjustments in line items. For instance, some employees are working in more than one department, but are not being precise enough in charging their time to the time departments.

She was concerned that the City has paid 36 percent of the amount budgeted to the Sewer District's operation and maintenance fund and still has 75 percent of the budget year left. However, Councilmen Scott Wright, Keith Jacobson, and Wayne Clegg, all members of the District control board, assured her that the Board plans to make some adjustments so that, one way or another, the City won't have to pay any more than it budgeted.

Jordanelle Walker

Mayor Gordon Mendenhall told the Council he would find out what it will cost to accept the 2,400 acre-foot of Jordanelle Reservoir water reserved for the City, and report back on those costs.

SAVE AN OFFICE FOR FOUR INSTANTLY! send the entire paper on to your sister in California. You might clip out a recipe or a wise word of wisdom. You might use it to start this evening's fire, or to put on the floor when Bobby paints his model. It

dard, fair policy to resolve those problems, the Council said they didn't see any way to set such a policy and decided the best solution would be to consider and resolve each case as it arises.

Grant Hearings

The Council scheduled public hearings for Dec. 7 and Jan. 1, to discuss projects that could qualify for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money in 1990. The deadline for filing for a grant is Feb. 1.

CDBG grants made it possible for the City to extend its water and sewer lines, during the past two years, and provided the largest part of the funding for the Wasatch County emergency building now under construction at First South and First West.

Full Time Animal Control

The Council unanimously ap-

But this Thanksgiving, be grateful you're not thankful for the newspaper. Have a happy Thanksgiving.

proved hiring Officer Wally Girard as the City's full time, permanent animal control officer. He will receive employee benefits retroactively to June.

Clegg, who is in charge of the Police Department, recommended the appointment. He said Girard had been hired for the position on a temporary basis, last spring, and praised his work.

Chief Jim Matthews said Girard was a reserve officer who had donated a lot of time to the City and had considerable knowledge and experience with police work. Matthews also praised Girard and recommended him because animal control work is closely related to police work. He said, Girard was considered possibly the best man in the state for the job since he was first hired and has, since then, participated in certification programs and added to his qualifications.

Misc

JoJo The Clown Visits Moore Care Pre-School and Child Care



JoJo the clown, from the Culpepper and Merriweather Circus, visited the children at Moore Care Pre-school and Child Care on Thursday morning. He spent over an hour performing for the children, and helping each child as they tried to learn to juggle, do the clown walk, and other tricks.

He also invited Moore Care to take the children on a special guided

tour on Monday. The children will be able to watch as the elephants and circus performers set up the area for that night's shows. He gave each child free tickets and a circus newspaper with a clown picture to color. The staff then painted each child's face with clown paint.

JoJo the Clown was a very friendly personality and everyone enjoyed his visit.

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May Can

Wider Snow

Sharon Lee Jones Snow

Loca 1560 E 1200 E

Rake Creek

Let's go

Mary Lynn No

Sunny Day Pre School

Jan 2005 Ken

David

or Rick

Bob Hartley

R. RAYMOND GREEN, M. D.

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SUNNY DAY PRESCHOOL AND DAYCARE

Started by Mary Montgomery about 1984 in the North School.

Later they moved to the old Pea Factory.

Even later they moved to a residence at 221 West 700 South, Heber. Jane Montgomery Kinsel, a sister to Mary, now is sponsoring the center.

They take care of infants to 10 years of age and many are children of single parents and have US Government subsidy for best nutrition.

Sunny Day Decision Postponed

Jan - 29 - 1987

Day Care Centers, such as the Sunny Day Pre School and Day Care, are allowed in residential areas. However, residents in the neighborhood where Sunny Day intends to relocate, have requested that Heber City put guidelines on day care centers to fit with their needs, according to Robert Giles, chairman of the Heber Planning Commission and a member of the Board of Adjustments.

Neighbors of the proposed site and Sunny Day supporters met Tuesday in the Wasatch County High School with the Board of Adjustments. The neighbors claim traffic caused by parents dropping off and picking up their children at the school will cause a

traffic hazard, endangering their children, that parking will be a problem, and that the existence of the school will lower property values.

Jane Kinsel, manager of the school, has pointed out that parents stay an average of only three minutes and that they arrive at different times during a period of twelve hours, so there should be no parking problems. She also noted that children should not be allowed to play in streets.

Giles said one reason for the postponement is that the Board of Adjustments needs to define a day care center and whether the board can, by law, put restrictions on a business which are

requested by other citizens. At the next meeting "we're going to have a legal opinion, for us, on whether we can do what they ask," he said. "They just had a hard time understanding (the school) was put in there legally and that nothing can be done, retroactive, to say, 'Now you can't come in because we're changing the rules on you.' That's kind of what they wanted us to do."

"Our zoning is intact. We are open for business as soon as the state can get up here and license us, based on the outcome of this (next) meeting," said Kinsel. The Board of Adjustments will meet again to rule on the matter next Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the city council room.

Sunny Day Pre School

Day Care 101 E 200 N

Heber

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